

**Group Topic : Death
Valley (United
States)**

**Member Topic :
Human Presence in
Death
Valley with special
emphasis on the
'Timbisha' tribe.**

**NAME: NARAYANI MEH
CLASS: 6 A
SUB: GEOGRAPHY
GROUP :5
MEMBER: 6**



Do People Live In the Death Valley?

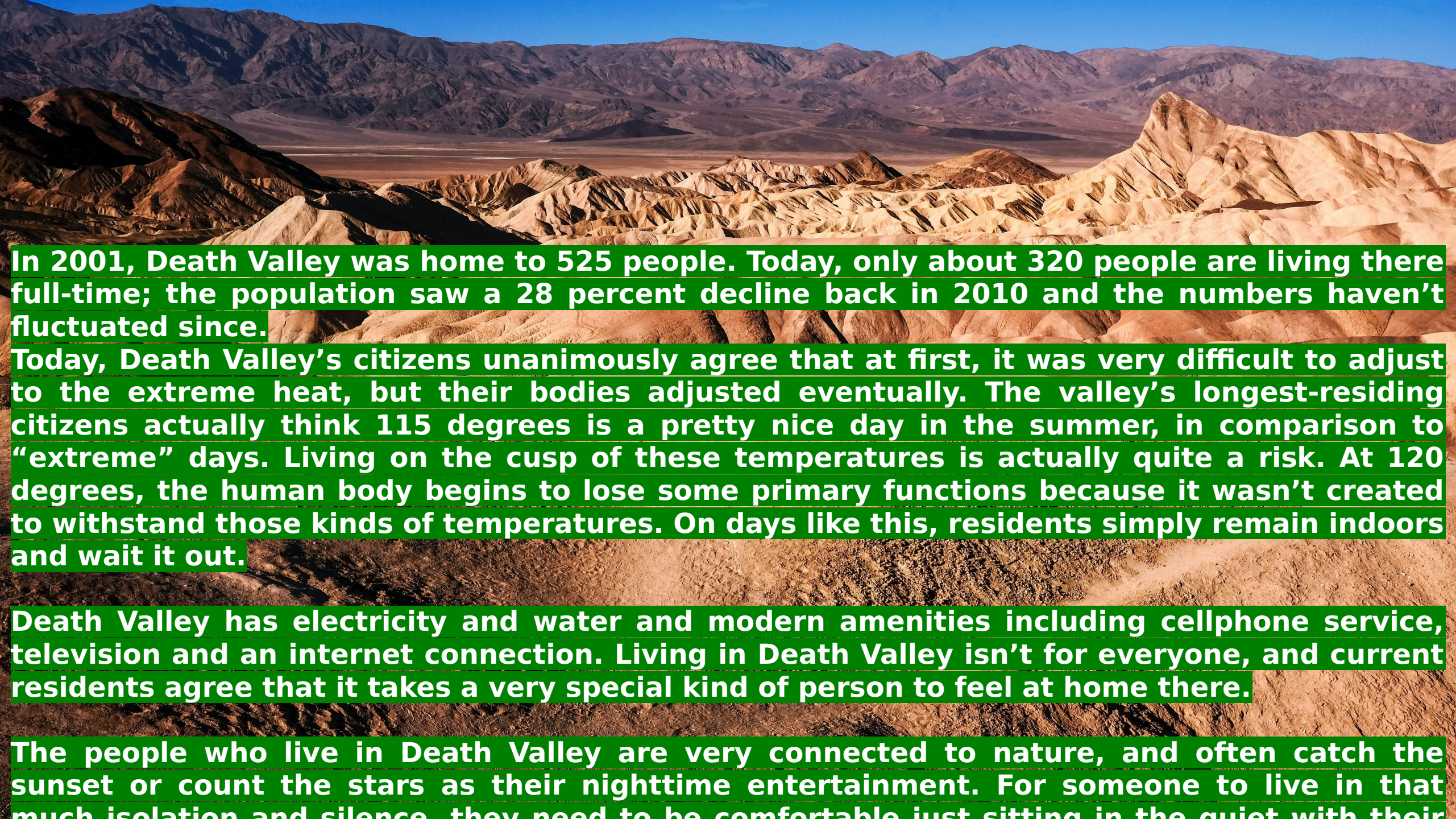
HUMAN PRESENCE IN THE DEATH VALLEY

Anyone who has even been remotely close to Death Valley, flown over it in a plane, or driven through it knows that it's the closest thing we'll come to seeing a true wasteland, especially the U.S. It's unbearably hot, reaching 115-120 degrees 5 months out of the year, and there's no sign of human life from the main road. Looks are deceiving, however, because a lot of people call Death Valley home.

The first pioneers who successfully made it all the way through Death Valley on foot didn't have the luxury of air-conditioned cars, handheld fans, or the luxury of taking a break whenever they felt like it.

Native Americans, most recently the Shoshone, found ways to adapt to the more recent and forbidding desert conditions that exist here now. Rock art and artifacts indicate a human presence dating back at least 9,000 years.

The human stories in this vast land are as numerous as the variations of color found in the hills and valleys here. Whether it was the lure of mineral wealth or the resort



In 2001, Death Valley was home to 525 people. Today, only about 320 people are living there full-time; the population saw a 28 percent decline back in 2010 and the numbers haven't fluctuated since.

Today, Death Valley's citizens unanimously agree that at first, it was very difficult to adjust to the extreme heat, but their bodies adjusted eventually. The valley's longest-residing citizens actually think 115 degrees is a pretty nice day in the summer, in comparison to "extreme" days. Living on the cusp of these temperatures is actually quite a risk. At 120 degrees, the human body begins to lose some primary functions because it wasn't created to withstand those kinds of temperatures. On days like this, residents simply remain indoors and wait it out.

Death Valley has electricity and water and modern amenities including cellphone service, television and an internet connection. Living in Death Valley isn't for everyone, and current residents agree that it takes a very special kind of person to feel at home there.

The people who live in Death Valley are very connected to nature, and often catch the sunset or count the stars as their nighttime entertainment. For someone to live in that much isolation and silence, they need to be comfortable just sitting in the quiet with their

THE TIMBISHA TRIBE

The Timbisha Shoshone tribe have lived in Death Valley for around 1,000 years and today, around 50-60 people still reside in the Indian Village. The Timbisha have lived in the [Death Valley](#) region of [North America](#) for over a thousand years. They were originally known as Panamints, as was their Uto-Aztec language. Many of them work for local organizations or the resorts, and some have gone off to college to come back and help the tribe maintain their heritage. The Timbisha are also very active in water conservation efforts for Death Valley, and many of them volunteer their own time to teach the younger tribe members work skills.



THE TIMBISHA TRIBE

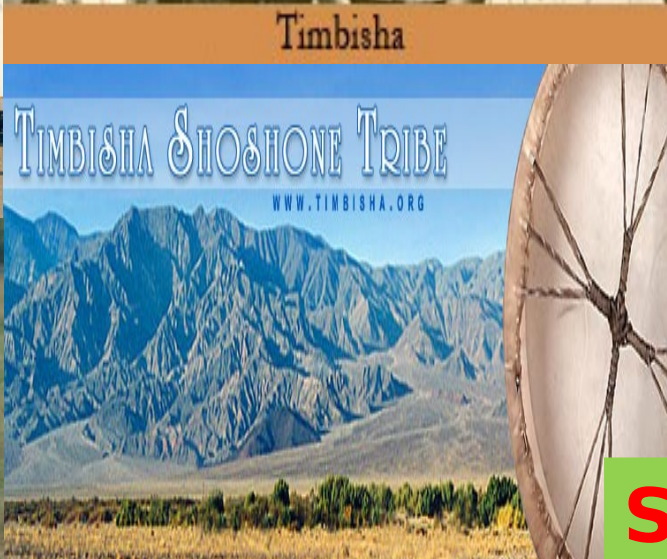
The **Timbisha Shoshone** Indians lived here for centuries before the first white man entered the valley. They hunted and followed seasonal migrations for harvesting of pinyon pine nuts and mesquite beans with their families. To them, the land provided everything they needed and many areas were, and are, considered to be sacred places.

The Timbisha Shoshone tribe has lived in Death Valley for around 1,000 years and today, around 50-60 people still reside in the Indian Village. Many of them work for local organizations or the resorts, and some have gone off to college to come back and help the tribe maintain their heritage. The Timbisha are also very active in water conservation efforts for Death Valley, and many of them volunteer their own time to teach the younger tribe members work skills.

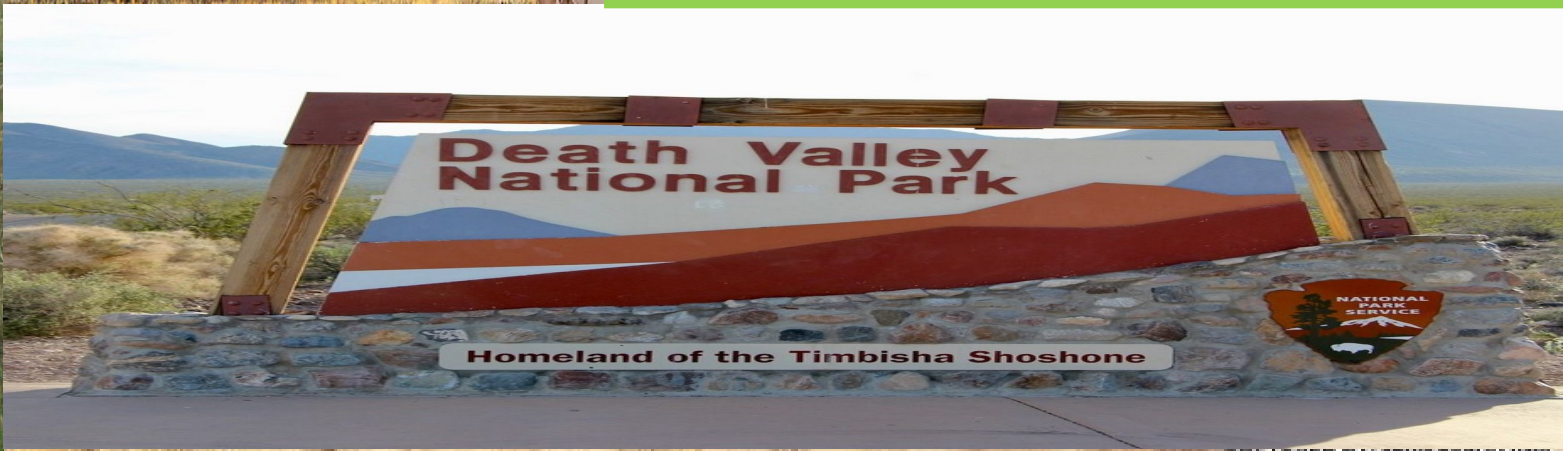


The Timbisha Shoshone Tribe received federal recognition in 1983. But the tribe did not receive a land base until November 1, 2000 when the Timbisha Homeland Act was signed into law. The Act transferred more than 7,700 acres of land in California and Nevada to the tribe.

The Timbisha Shoshone ancestral homelands encompass what is known today as Nevada



SHOSHONE BASKETRY



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Ankita Ma'am for having provided me with the wonderful opportunity of making this awesome project. It not only enhanced my knowledge but also my creativity and research skills. The project uses a very simple yet innovative and attractive approach. Thank you for helping me grow each day Ma'am.